

REMARKS

Claims 15-17 and 30-36, 38-50 and 52-56 are pending. Claims 15, 16, 30, 36, 43, 44, and 50 have been amended. Claims 37 and 51 have been canceled. No new matter has been introduced. Re-examination and reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In the February 1, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 15-17 and 30-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner further rejected claims 15-17 and 30-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, stating that such a rejection is required if a 101 rejection is given. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections in view of the claims, as amended.

Claim 15, as amended now recites:

A system for detecting a semantic temporal event included in unprocessed video or audio data of an event from at least one data source, said system comprising:

- a knowledge-based modeling unit for generating multiple-layer models for identifying said semantic temporal event;
- a storage mechanism for storing said multiple-layer models;
- an observation collection unit for extracting, from said *unprocessed video or audio data from the at least one data source*, temporal observations according to said multiple-layer models for the semantic temporal event; and
- a temporal event detection unit for detecting one or more occurrences of the semantic temporal event based on said temporal observations and said multiple-layer models, *wherein the semantic temporal event occurs during the event and the event has a start time and an end time.*

In the February 1 Office Action, the Examiner found that “the claims are impermissibly abstract under 35 U.S.C. § 101 doctrine.” In doing so, the Examiner states that “Applicant manipulated a set of abstract “semantic temporal events” to solve purely algorithmic problems in the abstract.” The Examiner also indicated that because the claims are not limited to physical time, the claims remain abstract ideas not suitable for patent. Applicants have amended in view of the Examiner’s comments. Applicants believe that the claims are drawn to physical time and

not mathematical time, and therefore the claims are not impermissibly abstract. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 15, as amended is directed to statutory subject matter and the application is sufficient to enable one of ordinary skill in the art to practice the invention. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn with respect to independent claim 15, as amended.

Independent claim 43, as amended recites limitations similar to those of independent claim 15, as amended. Accordingly Applicants respectfully submit that claim 43 is directed to statutory subject matter for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 15, as amended. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn with respect to independent claim 43, as amended.

Claims 16-17 and 30-36 and 38-42 depend from claim 15, as amended. Claims 44-50 and 52-56 depend from claim 43, as amended. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 16-17, 30-36, 38-42, 44-50, and 52-56 are directed to statutory subject matter for the same reasons set forth above with respect to claims 15 and 43, respectively. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn with respect to claims 16-17, 30-36, 38-42, 44-50, and 52-56.

///

///

///

///

///

///

///


///

Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

Date: June 30, 2006

By: 
Mark R. Kendrick
Registration No. 48,468
Customer No. 27496

725 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2800
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5406
Telephone: (213) 488-7100
Facsimile: (213) 629-1033